

**REMARKS**

Upon entry of the Amendment, Claims 1, 3-6, and 8 are all the claims pending in the application. Claims 2 and 7 have been canceled. Claim 1 has been amended, in that the subject matter of presently canceled Claims 2 and 7 has been added to Claim 1. Claim 3 has been amended so that it no longer depends on a canceled claim. Claim 3 presently depends on Claim 1. Therefore, the above amendments to the claims add no new matter.

As requested by the Examiner, Applicants have also amended the disclosure on page 5, lines 16-20 of the specification. The amendment clarifies that “the amount of acid” is “the amount of the aqueous solution of the acid.”

**I. Rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph**

Claim 7 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph as allegedly being indefinite. Applicants have canceled Claim 7. Therefore this rejection is moot.

**II. Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102**

Four rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) are outstanding. Claims 1 and 4 are rejected as allegedly being anticipated by U.S. 5,472,636. Claims 1, 2, and 4 are rejected as allegedly being anticipated by U.S. 5,839,718. Claims 1, 4, 7, and 8 are rejected as allegedly being anticipated by U.S. 4,208,448. Claims 1, 2, and 4-6 are rejected as allegedly being anticipated by U.S. patent application 2002/0153510.

Without admitting that any of these are correct, Applicants respectfully submit none of the cited art anticipates Claim 1 as presently recited. There is no one rejection directed to Claim 1 and cancelled Claims 2 and 7. Given that Claim 1 presently includes the subject matter of both

cancelled Claims 2 and 7, none of the rejections account for each and every element recited in Claim 1.

Further, Claims 3-6 and 8 depend, directly or indirectly, on Claim 1. Therefore, Applicants respectfully submit that Claims 3-6 and 8 are patentable over the cited art for at least the same reason as Claim 1.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections are respectfully requested.

**III. Rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)**

Claims 1-6 and 8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over U.S. 6,802,990 in view of U.S. patent application publication 2002/0153510 and U.S. 5,839,718.

As mentioned above, and without admitting that this rejection is appropriate, Claim 1 as presently recited includes the subject matter of cancelled Claim 7.

Further, Claims 3-6 and 8 depend, directly or indirectly, on Claim 1. Therefore, Applicants respectfully submit that Claims 3-6 and 8 are patentable over the cited art for at least the same reason as Claim 1.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection are respectfully requested.

Allowance of Claims 1, 3-6, and 8 is honestly solicited.

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111  
U.S. APPLN. NO. 10/805,294

ATTY DKT Q80464

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.


Respectfully submitted,

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Date: September 16, 2005